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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECRET

COUNTRY

USSR

REPORT NO.

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SUBJECT

Rail Journey to Murmansk

DATE DISTR.

23 July 1954

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DATE OF INFO.

REQUIREMENT NO.

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PLACE ACQUIRED

REFERENCES

- 25X1 1. The Moscow-Murmansk express [redacted] arrives in Kalinin (N 56-50, E 35-55) at 0400 hours. It arrives at the Moskovskiy railroad station (vokzal) in Leningrad at about 1200 hours the same day and stops in Leningrad for about 20 to 25 minutes. The train then continues on to Petrozavodsk (N 61-49, E 34-20), Kem (N 64-57, E 34-36), and Kandalaksha (N 67-09, E 32-26), and arrives in Murmansk (N 68-58, E 33-05) at approximately 0500 hours two days after it leaves Kalinin.
- 25X1 2. Upon its arrival in Murmansk, the train is powered by an electric engine.
- 25X1 3. A railroad ticket from Kalinin to Murmansk costs 145 rubles, of which 25 rubles is for the privilege of riding a fast train. There was no difficulty in obtaining a ticket, as few people travel to Murmansk in winter.

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train also had a restaurant, and a waitress periodically came through the length of the train selling various light refreshments such as tea, coffee, vodka, beer, sandwiches, and fruit in season. There were two conductors on the train who came through the train and checked tickets off a list. The prices were about ten per cent higher than in the ordinary dining rooms or buffets in Leningrad. Food could also be obtained at all stations, either from the station restaurant or from peasant women who usually had some farm produce to offer. As the train got further north there were fewer peasant women vendors. This was probably because of the winter season and lack of produce; in summer things may have been quite different.

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6. The train, although classed as an express train (skoriy poyezd), stopped approximately every 60 kilometers. The train consisted of about ten coaches which included sleepers. There was also a baggage car. Each compartment had nine seats. The locomotive was an SU type which probably had a two - six - four wheel arrangement with a two-bogie tender, fired by coal with a small admixture of shale.

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